arise. As regards the Import Policy, there is no proposal to make any change in the current Policy.

Issue of NRI bonds

*292. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have announced the first ever issue of NRI Bonds in the U.S. dollars on non repatriable basis;

(b) if so, what are the names of banks and other financial institutions which will be associated abroad with the collections of these Bonds and what are the denominations of these Bonds; and

(c) what is the total amount of money (in US dollars) so for collected by Government through such Bonds and what is the estimated collection target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following Banks have been associated with the collections these Bonds:—

Bank of India
Bank of Baroda
State Bank of India
Indian Overseas Bank
UCO Bank
Canara Bank
Bank of Oman
Citibank N.A.
Standard Charatered Bank
Banque Indosuez
Grindlays Bank
Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank
Hong Kong Bank
American Express Bank
S.B. India Hongkong Finance Ltd.
Oman International Bank.

The Bonds are of the demoniation of U.S. $ 500, 1000, 5,000 and 10,000.

(c) U.S. $ 3 million has been collected through Bonds upto 25th October, 1988. It is an Open Issue. No target has been fixed for the Issue. All eligible NRIs subscribing to the Issue will be allotted the Bonds.

Hut Insurance scheme

*293. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hut Insurance Scheme for poor families in rural areas, in force from 1st May, 1988, provides relief only in cases of damage due to fire; if so, what are the reasons for not covering damages due to floods and earthquakes;

(b) how the poor victims of fire in remote areas are expected to send their claim applications to the single Claims Enquiry-cum-Settlement Officer of a State and get the claim from the Divisional Office of the designated insurance company;

(c) whether huts or poor slum dwellers in an urban area damaged or destroyed in a fire are also covered under this Scheme; if not what are the reasons for the disrimination; and

(d) what is the Statewise number of claims so far received under this Scheme and how many of such claims have been cleared for final payment.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (c) The Hut Insurance Scheme provides relief to